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Period 2

Annotated Bibliography

1. Describe the origin of political parties in America and their major conflicts up to 1800.
2. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Constitution.html>
3. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/inaugural.html>
4. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/judiciary.html>
5. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Residence.html>
6. <http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Alien.html>

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Constitution.html>

The United States Constitution was put together by members appointed by the colonies on September 17, 1787 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It focused mainly on the formation of the American Nation by putting into writing the laws, and principles that the nation would live by. It was the heart and soul of the American People and shaped our country today by officially declaring independence from the British. It formed a centralized government that focused on equal rights for all man. Some key people that wrote the Constitution of the United States were James Madison, and Thomas Jefferson. They had common goals in uniting the colonies and making sure that the Nation was one. The Constitution was addressed to the sates in America and needed to be approved by the states. The Constitution took a total of four months to debate with many compromises. It was ratified and the new Federal government in 1789. The Constitution established the U.S. government as it exists today.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/inaugural.html>

This was a great step in American history; establishing the First United States President. On April 30, 1789, George Washington took the oath of office and became the First United States President. He delivered his oath of speech to a joint session of Congress, assembled in Federal Hall in the Nation’s new capitol, New York City. George Washington urged Congress after becoming President to establish the Bill of Rights to the Constitution which would express the “reverence for the characteristic rights of freedom and a regard for the public harmony…” George Washington was originally the Commander in Chief, but because of his great leadership and loyalty to his country he was warmly welcomed and accepted to be the President. He was accepted by many of the colonists because of the brilliant success he had in leading his troops during the American Revolution. Ever since President Washington, every other President till today has followed his example and delivered an inaugural address.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/judiciary.html>

This is the Judiciary Act of 1789, and was officially, “An act to establish the judicial courts of the United States,” and was signed into law by the President George Washington on September 24, 1789. In order to make sure that the laws and that the idea of justice was enforced the judicial courts were a key essential for this to happen. Article III of the Constitution established a Supreme Court, but left Congress the authority to create lower federal courts as needed. Ellsworth of Connecticut, the Judiciary Act of 1789 established the structure and jurisdiction of the federal court system and created the position of the attorney general. This act was a very important act because it gave the States their individual courts that could uphold the laws and serve for justice. Although amended throughout the years by Congress, the basic outline of the federal court system established by the First Congress remains largely intact today.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Residence.html>

The Residence Act of 1790, officially titled “An Act for Establishing the Temporary and Permanent Seat of the Government of the United States,” and was passed on July 16, 1790, and selected a site on the Potomac River as the permanent capital in ten years times. This Act was due to an argument and was a political argument. Also, this act designated Philadelphia as the temporary capital for a period of ten years. The Residence Act was the result of a compromise reached between Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Hamilton and James Madison concerning the permanent location of the federal capital. In exchange for locating the new capital on the Potomac River, Madison agreed not to block legislation mandating the assumption of the states’ debts by the Federal government. This act was focused on solving the conflicts and trying to set up a new capital.

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/Alien.html>

The Alien and Sedition Acts was a very important act to the United States. Signed into law by President John Adams in 1798, the Alien and Sedition Acts consisted of four laws passed by the Federalists-controlled Congress as American prepared for war with France. These acts increased the residency requirement for American citizenship from five to fourteen years, authorized the president to imprison or deport aliens considered "dangerous to the peace and safety of the United States" and restricted speech critical of the government. These laws were designed to silence and weaken the Democratic-Republican Party. Negative reaction to the Alien and Sedition Acts helped contribute to the Democratic-Republican victory in the 1800 elections. Congress repealed the Naturalization Act in 1802, while the other acts were allowed to expire.

**Bibliography**

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/ourdocs/NewNation.html>